

Rebecca Marshall

June 26, 2003

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Chief Justice Maura D. Corrigan
Michigan Supreme Court
P.O. Box 30052
Lansing, MI 48909

OFFICE OF
THE CHIEF JUSTICE

Re: Changes in child support

Dear Chief Justice Corrigan:

I recently read of the proposed changes in Michigan's child support system in the Grand Rapids Press and felt compelled to voice my opinion.

If this proposal passes, there is a very good chance that my children will lose their home. My former husband left our home after impregnating his mistress. This was a devastating blow to both myself and my two children. My main objective was to be able to give them the greatest sense of security I could; for them to be able to continue living in their home.

I work full-time and am college educated, but I rely on the child support paid by my ex-husband to maintain the family home. My finances are budgeted based on the amount that I am currently receiving from him, and if that amount is cut now I will no longer be able to maintain the household.

This proposal is NOT child friendly. One overnight a week with their father will not reduce the cost of raising them from my perspective, nor would it be a detriment to his budget. The amount of my mortgage payment, utilities, insurance, and other household expenses will not be decreased because my kids are gone for one overnight a week.

Please consider this proposal from the standpoint of meeting the children's needs. My children's father refuses to contribute to any expenses besides his child support. When my kids want to go to camp, take driver's training, need sports equipment, etc., that all comes out of my pocket in addition to the above expenses. This proposal would be financially devastating to me and many other custodial parents (mostly mothers) throughout the state.

Please consider these matters when considering making changes in the child support payment system.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Marshall

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Rebecca Marshall
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